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DCI to NSC

10/1/53

BOHLEN BRIEFING

(1) Under Stalin government all USSR had
become "Stalin private property"
subject whim vain intolerant old man.

(2) Attempt being made change all this.
Temporarily avoiding Stalin type
dictatorship for Lenin techniques
permitting delegation of power.

(3) Even Totalitarian governments
~~experience evolution. This is happening~~
~~in Soviet~~

③ Power of Party Secretariat de-emphasized.

④ Following new developments :
Party Secretariat deflated.

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(2)

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MVD influence reduced.

Concentration camps removed its jurisdiction, assigned Justice Ministry and question whether MVD controls its units in Army.

(6) New emphasis on consumers goods and promised agricultural reforms.

(6) People given new feeling if they keep off grass won't be subject to police action.

(8) Recognize industrial base for heavy industry adequate.

Defects in production consumers goods in agricultural policy.

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(8) More common sense in foreign policy
but no basic change.

~~Some~~ Some of Stalin's awkward positions
abandoned.

Example: Turkey, Yugoslavia -- but
caught in contradiction -- want no major
trouble but unwilling to surrender anything.

"Peace at no price."

(11) Berlin likely to become a hot spot though
unlikely blockade re-imposed.

Populæ
(12) American approach Soviet problem
often substitutes cliches for analysis.

(13) Evolution goes on ^{even} under dictatorship ~~as~~
elsewhere. This taking place Soviet Union.

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